

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 DRC-01 /052 W

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R 232221Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4565

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E.O. 11652 NA

TAG: ETRN; ES

SUBJ: CIVAIR-PAN AMERICAN SITREP

REF: A. STATE 012429; B. SAN SALVADOR 0258.

1. EMBOFF MET WITH ECONOMIC MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARY ROBLES JANUARY 22, PER REFTEL B., AND SUMMARIZED PAN AM'S SITUATION SINCE OCTOBER 1972; PROVIDING A CHRONOLOGY AND ITS EXISTENCE UNDER TEMPORARY APPROVALS FOR BOTH THE BASIC PERMIT AND SCHEDULE. ROBLES WAS TOLD THE YEAR AND A HALF OF TENUOUS APPROVALS LEFT THE EMBASSY MYSTIFIED SINCE IT WAS UNAWARE OF ANY UNRESOLVED ISSUE WITH PAN AM; ALSO THAT PAN AM TOO WAS UNAWARE OF CAUSES FOR THE LACK OF PERMANENT APPROVAL. OWING TO THIS, THE USG WAS CURIOUS WHY THE GOES WAS FOLLOWING THIS POLICY.

2. ROBLES PROMISED EARLY ACTION AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE PROBLEM. ROBLES, WHO IS VERY NEW TO HIS POSITION, CONFESSED HE HAD NOT BEEN AWARE OF THIS ISSUE UNTIL THAT DAY WHEN AT A MEETING INVOLVING THE PRESIDENT ANOTHER GOES OFFICIAL ASKED WHY IBERIA HAD ONLY A 60-DAY PERMIT WHEN THE PRESIDENT'S DECLARED POLICY FAVORED "OPEN SKIES" AND TOURISM PROMOTION. ALSO MENTIONED AT THE MEETING WAS THE DESIRE VOICED BY SOME OF THE EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES JUST VISITED BY A GOES TRADE MISSION FOR MORE DIRECT FLIGHTS TO CENTRAL AMERICA. THE PRESIDENT RESPONDED BY ASKING ROBLES TO SEE WHAT HAPPENED TO THE COMMISSION'S STUDY OF AIR POLICY AND RESOLVE THE MATTER. ROBLES THEN DISCOVERED AN AUGUST 1973 REPORT DONE BY A MUPTI-AGENCY GOES SPECIAL AIR TRANSPORT

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POLICY COMMISSION (ALLUDED TO IN REFTEL AND PREVIOUS) WHICH

INCLUDES RECOMMENDATIONS. TO HIS KNOWLEDGE THE REPORT HAD NOT SEEN THE LIGHT OF DAY, BUT HE HAD JUST DISCOVERED IT BEFORE EMBOFF'S APPOINTMENT AND SO WAS NOT THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH THE BACKGROUND. IN ANY CASE, HE COULD EXPLAIN THE POLICY OF TEMPORARY APPROVALS ONLY BY THE LACK OF RESOLUTION OF THE PERMIT POLICY EXAMINATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMISSION.

3. CONCERNING PAR. 3 OF REFTEL B., PAN AM'S MARTINEZ SPOKE WITH TACA VICE PRES QUESADA AND WAS TOLD THE ALLEGED VAB CONTACT WITH TACA IN MIAMI IS NOT CLEAR. THE MIAMI TACA OFFICE "HAS HEARD" THAT THE CAB IS CONCERNED OVER DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT OF PAN AM HERE AND THAT IT IS RELATING THAT FEELING WITH THE ANTICIPATED TACA APPLICATION TO THE CAB FOR A MERIDA/HOUSTON ROUTE APPLICATION. (COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS HEARD FROM A US LAWYER/CONSULTANT OF TACA THAT TEXAS INSTRUMENTS, A NEW INVESTOR HERE, IS GOING "TO DELIVER" THIS ROUTE SINCE IT NEEDS TACA SERVICE, ESPECIALLY CARGO.) MARTINEZ TOLD QUESADA IT APPEARED PAN AM WAS NOT RECEIVING DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT. IN ADDITION TO IBERIA AND SAM, COPA ALSO HAS A 60 DAY TEMPORARY PERMIT.

4. THE EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE THIS MATTER AND REMAIN IN CONTACT WITH LOCAL PAN AM REPRESENTATIVES, REPORTING ANY SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS.
MOSKOWITZ

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Message Attributes

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